

## REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 12th August 1905.

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Rosnama-i-Mukaddas Habib Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 7th August has the following:—

The Kabul Mission.

ROSNAMA-I-MUKADDAS HABIB MATEEN,  
August 7th, 1905.

From the statement of the *Indian Daily News* it appears that the Kabul Mission returned to India without gaining its objects and that it conceded to all the demands of the Amir without reluctance. When the objects of the Mission became known to the Amir, he became angry with it, and having called the attention of the Mission to the treaty entered into between the late Amir and the British Government, Amir Habibullah Khan said that a fresh treaty was unnecessary. At last when he was convinced of the necessity of one he prepared a draft with his own hands and presented it to the Mission for its approval. In the meantime he did not change his attitude. While the terms were being discussed by the two parties matters became so serious as to threaten a rupture (war).

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

2. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 27th July says that the inhabi-

The Jagatballabhpur thana in the Howrah district. tants living within the jurisdiction of the Jagatballabhpur thana in the Howrah district have submitted a petition to the District Magistrate

protesting against the proposal to transfer the head-quarters of the thana from Jagatballabhpur to Munshirhat. Jagatballabhpur is a big and flourishing village with a school, a sub-registry office, a post-office, a District Board bungalow, a guest-house, a railway station, and a bazar. Besides this, there are many budmashes in the locality who can only be kept in check by the existence of a police-station in their midst. Jagatballabhpur may be malarious, but Munshirhat, too, is not free from malaria. The causes of the insanitariness of that part of the village in which the thana is situated are want of wholesome drinking water and overgrowth of jungle. If these causes are removed the site of the thana will become healthy. Even if the present site is condemned on the ground of insanitariness, there are healthy parts of the village to which the head-quarters of the thana can, if necessary, be removed.

3. The same paper says that the panchayats within the jurisdiction of the Shyampur thana in the Howrah district are

A panchayati grievance. quite unfit to discharge the duties of their office.

They are men without any education or character. Most of them have had criminal cases instituted against them. There are many good and educated men in the locality who ought to be induced to become panchayats. The following names may be mentioned in this connection:—

- (1) Babu Durga Prasanna Misra, Talukdar, Nakol.
- (2) „ Govinda Chandra Mandal, Head Master, Sasati High School.
- (3) „ Gopal Chandra Dutta, Head Master, Middle School, Rajibpur.
- (4) „ Rasik Chandra Das, Naoda.
- (5) „ Umes Chandra Baitalik, Talukdar, Kamalpur.
- (6) „ Nivaran Chandra Sarkar, Native Doctor, Kurchibere.
- (7) „ Kirttibas Jalad, Head Pandit, Middle School, Gujarpur.
- (8) „ Bhupen Chandra Gude, Head Master, Middle School, Shyampur.

4. A correspondent of the *Hitavarta* [Muradnagar] of the 31st July

A President panchayat in the Tippera district. draws the attention of the Subdivisional Officer of Brahmanbaria in the Tippera district to the qualification of the President panchayat of the Satmora

Union. He is not a man of education. The annual income of his landed property is not more than Rs. 53 and he has a debt of Rs. 1,000. Such a man should not be placed at the head of a Union panchayat.

5. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 1st August says that two or three persons living within the jurisdiction of

Forgery in the Mymensingh district. Fulpur thana in the Mymensingh district are making a livelihood by forging documents, etc.

The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

HOWRAH HITAISHI,  
July 27th, 1905.

HOWRAH HITAISHI.

HITAVARTA,  
July 31st, 1905.

CHARU MIHIR.  
August 1st, 1905.

CHARU MIHIR.  
Augt 1st, 1905.

6. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 1st August draws the attention of the Subdivisional Officer of Kishorganj in the Mymensingh district to the prevalence of crime, especially outrage on females, within that subdivision.

Outrage on females in the Mymensingh district.

A correspondent says that on the 20th July last a wealthy resident of the Dhariswar village committed outrage on the daughter-in-law of a fellow villager. In another case in the month of Bhadra last some budmashes carried away the wife of a washerman of the same village and kept her concealed for four or five days. Both these cases have been hushed up for fear of the budmashes.

Another correspondent says that on the 1st Sravan last a budmash twice attempted to outrage the modesty of a woman named Rasmuni, sister of Chaitanya Chang, of the Sibrampur village under the Muktagacha outpost in the district, but failed in his attempt owing to the opposition of the villagers.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
August 7th, 1905.

7. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 7th August has the following in its English columns:—

Outrage on females in the Mymensingh district. Outrage on females is one of the crying evils of the day. The police with all their commendable zeal for the repression of crimes have not been able to check the progress of the evil. Mymensingh has gained an unenviable notoriety in this connection. Scarcely a week passes when the *Charu Mihir* of Mymensingh does not publish harrowing tales of oppression on females. A few days ago our contemporary brought to light a number of such cases which would naturally lead one to doubt the very existence of British rule in that district. There are places in the district where in fact person and property are most unsafe. From Mymensingh the other districts of Bengal seem to have caught the contagion. Now-a-days metropolitan and provincial papers are all full of reports of cases of this kind. But Mymensingh is still far ahead of the other districts! Pity it is that Government, with all its zeal and earnestness to safeguard the best interests of its subjects, has been thwarted in its attempts in this direction by the miscreants. The case that is now much talked of and watched with the keenest interest by the Mymensingh public is what is known as the Gachihata case. Gachihata is a village in the Kishorganj subdivision where a young girl, Susila by name, has been subjected to repeated outrages by some Muhammadan ruffians of the neighbourhood. It is, however, something to notice that the matter has attracted the attention of the Government of Bengal, and it was only the other day that the District Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh, went in person to the said village to investigate the case at the instance of the Inspector-General of Police. We hope some able detectives will be deputed to institute a sifting enquiry into the matter so that the real offenders may be brought to justice and exemplary punishment meted out to them.

There is no denying the fact that it is the bounden duty of every paternal Government to see that the personal liberty of no class of its subjects is at stake. But now the question is, is the Government alone responsible for this deplorable state of things? Have the children of the soil nothing to do in this connection? Cannot the local zamindars and talukdars and the leading men of the important villages help Government in more ways than one in eradicating the evil? We are firmly of opinion that if they will all act in concert, the evil complained of will ere long be a thing of the past. It not unfrequently happens that the influential men of the locality try to screen the perpetrators of these foul deeds for some private reasons of their own. It is for fear of these so-called influential men that the wronged parties on some occasions suffer the indignities in silence, having neither the courage nor the means to apply for legal help. The Presidents of the Village Unions under the new system may do the people a world of good in this direction. In a majority of cases the ends of justice are frustrated and the real offenders are not brought to book through the machinations of, or, at best, in absence of active sympathy and co-operation from, these local men. So we would ask, in the name of humanity, every one interested in the welfare of the country to strengthen the hands of Government in putting down this lawlessness with a high hand; for, in our humble opinion, without some such joint action the efforts of Government are pretty sure to end in smoke. Will not our country people rise equal to the occasion and do their little best to ensure the liberty and honour of their females?

8. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 4th August writes that the inhabitants living within the jurisdiction comprised in the Kaliganj outpost in Rangpur are extremely dissatisfied with Babu Bepin Bihari Banerjee, the incumbent at present in charge of that outpost. Crime has increased during his tenure of office, and it is their impression that when a case of theft is reported, the daroga Babu holds a personal investigation on the spot, where he is more busy attending to his own interests than to those of justice. As illustration, the following is cited:—A case of housebreaking attended with theft recently occurred in the house of one Nabin Badyakar in village Brahmanikunda. The culprit was identified, and when attempted to be caught could only escape after a struggle. The case was duly reported to the daroga, who came to the scene of the crime, secured for himself a comfortable and luxurious dinner, and thereupon summoned the culprit, only, however, to let him off after examination, reporting that there was not sufficient evidence against the man. Yet subsequently when the case came before Banku Babu, one of the local Deputy Magistrates, the Court held that there was sufficient evidence to justify the *challaning* of the accused.

RANGPUR  
VARTAVAH,  
August 4th, 1905.

Allegations against a police daroga.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

9. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August objects to a suggestion

Proposed increase of salaries to Court *amla* in Bengal.

which it hears has emanated from the Committee now sitting to consider the question of increase of salaries to Court *amla* in Bengal, to effect a reduction in the numerical strength of these *amla* and devote the money thus saved to an increase of the remuneration of the rest. It is urged that these *amla* are already overworked and will be sure to break down under the strain if any additional work be put on their shoulders.

SANJIVANI.  
August 3rd, 1905.

10. Referring to the Mymensingh slander case, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August writes as follows:—

The Mymensingh slander case.

It is not clear to us how Mr. Lee could be held guilty in the case. It was proved beyond dispute that rumours against Miss Mell's character had been in secret circulation for a long time. In speaking as he did against Miss Mell Mr. Lee had only been actuated by the honourable motive of saving the honour and prestige of his friends and their ladies. Mr. Justice Stephen too admitted that he had not been actuated by malice. Was it then a great offence on his part to echo an old rumour?

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
August 3rd, 1905.

11. Referring to the Kharagpur outrage case, the same paper writes as follows:—

The Kharagpur outrage case.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA.

Only a small percentage of the actual number of cases of outrage on females which occur on Indian railways are reported in newspapers, because Indian women are most careful in hiding their shame. Respectable Indian women would rather kill themselves than see the stories of their shame becoming the talk of everybody. European Judges, who have no knowledge of the workings of the Indian mind, can seldom realise the position of an outraged Indian woman standing in a law court, and consequently such cases often give rise to serious miscarriage of justice. In the case referred to above the presiding Judge ought to have considered what interest or motive could a Brahmin lady have in falsely bringing a case against a European which would be sure to ruin her both in this world and the next. A European lady may be able easily to bring such a case against one who has annoyed or harmed her in some way. But to talk of the possibility of such a thing in the case of a high caste Hindu woman is simply madness. In the Kharagpur case the assessors found the accused person guilty, but the Judge dissented from their verdict and acquitted him. Can there be a greater miscarriage of justice? The Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to call for the papers of the Chapra outrage case, and it is hoped that he will do the same in the above case also.

12. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th August thanks the Lieutenant-Governor for having called for the papers of the Chapra outrage case, and hopes that His Honour will soon do the same in regard to the Kharagpur case.

HITAVADI,  
August 4th, 1905.

The Chapra and Kharagpur outrage cases.

SAMAY,  
August 4th, 1905.

13. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 4th August takes exception to the manner in which Justices Rampini and Mukherji are clearing the file of the Criminal Bench of the Calcutta High Court. A month ago the file was

The Criminal Bench of the High Court.  
very heavy. But the Hon'ble Justices cleared it in two or three weeks. Since then the Bench has not sat for one day and, even when it did sit, on more than one occasion retired before tiffin-time for want of business. Formerly Judges sitting on the Bench used to find even their whole time too short for hearing motion cases. But Justices Rampini and Mukherji finish such cases before tiffin-time. While hearing cases Mr. Rampini, who is the senior Judge on the Bench, is in the habit of putting such questions to Counsel for the defence as "Have you done, Babu?" "Have you anything more to say?" etc. The Counsel have therefore to make short work of their business. This is scandalous for the highest Court of Justice in the country. Such conduct on the part of the Hon'ble Justices has made many people despair of making appeals to the High Court, and led others to think that the Hon'ble Justices are in the habit of arriving at decisions in cases before hearing all the arguments on both sides. The Chief Justice is requested to look to the matter.

BANGAVASI,  
August 5th, 1905.

14. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August writes that on Friday, the 28th July last, there was not a single case for

The Criminal Bench of the Calcutta High Court.  
trial on the file of the Criminal Appellate Bench

of the High Court at Calcutta. This is an event probably without a parallel in the history of the Court since its creation. It was only a few days ago that one heard that undisposed of cases were accumulating so fast as to tax the working capacity of the Judges severely. Anyhow this sudden disinclination of the Bengalis for litigation is not a good sign. Can crime then be said to be on the decrease in the country? Some people are of opinion that justice is not so well dispensed nowadays in the High Court as of old, and that the expenses of conducting law suits have also increased and that these two causes account for this diminished number of cases. But how can one believe that justice is not well dispensed in the High Court? The condition of the High Court must be said to have rather improved than deteriorated. Moreover, in these days of increasing poverty and bad training, crime is not likely to be on the decrease. Can it be then that the two Judges presiding over the Criminal Bench are extraordinarily efficient officers, who are disposing of satisfactorily quite an immense number of cases every day?

BHARAT MITRA,  
August 5th, 1905.

15. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 5th August notices the fact that on the 28th July last there was no case pending

The Calcutta High Court.

on the file of the Appellate side of the Calcutta

High Court, and asks the Bengalis, why have they become so indifferent to litigation? The *Hitavarta* of the 6th and the *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 7th instant also comment on this.

(d)—*Education*,

BIHAR BANDHU,  
August 1st, 1905.

16. The *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 1st August notices the establishment of a Sanskrit school named The Pramada Vidyalaya of "Pramada Vidyalaya" at Chapra and the good work done by its teacher, Pandit Raghunandan Tripatti, who has obtained three highest honours at the title examinations of the Benares Sanskrit College and is at present employed as Head Pandit of the local Zilla School. Instruction is imparted in the higher subjects and students are prepared for the title examinations. The favourable remarks of inspecting and other officers have also been quoted in original.

BANGAVASI,  
August 5th, 1905.

17. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August publishes an article from an expert, in which the following observations

What Primary Readers should  
treat of.

are made:—

The scientific Readers taught at present to Lower Primary students teach such simple scientific truths as brick and wood are solids, water and milk liquids, and air a gaseous substance; that solid substances have well-defined shapes, while fluids have none; that some plants have branches and others not; that plants require food just like animals,

and that some substances are soluble in water while others are not. Now, these truths are so self-evident that none can help learning them by every-day experience. The veriest dullard feeds the tree he plants with water, earth and manure, and the very labourer in this country knows that if a solution of salt be made to evaporate the salt contained in it will be left at the bottom. To devote two or three years to the teaching of truths so simple and self-evident would seem to be a sheer waste of time. The world's affairs went on quite smoothly when these things were not taught systematically here or elsewhere and people were left to gather them from their every-day experience.

There are, however, certain other truths contained in these Readers not so simple or self-evident as these and which, to be made intelligible to young students, require to be demonstrated by neat and accurate experiments. But accurate experiment presupposes materials and apparatus, simple enough, no doubt, but yet requiring some outlay, as well as a trained intellect and a practised hand. The first requisite may be procurable, but not so the other. Without neat and careful experiments these scientific truths will, at best, be learnt by rote and, therefore, never truly learnt, and the students' knowledge of them will be of the haziest character. But important as these latter truths are, they need not be learnt from a book. A more efficacious and expeditious method of teaching them would be to provide the teacher with a simple scientific treatise and to instruct him to teach them orally by means of accurate and carefully performed experiments.

What are of most vital concern to the malaria-stricken mufassal are first sanitation and next agriculture. Food is no doubt necessary for health, but in order to be able to earn food one must first be healthy. No one is more alive to the importance of sanitary teaching in the mufassal than our Government, which, so long as 50 or 60 years back, introduced hygiene as one of the subjects to be taught in village schools. But the knowledge of hygiene thus imparted in schools having never been reduced to practice it has had no effect on the health of the mufassal. The *gurus* should therefore be required to visit the house of every pupil and see whether the principles of hygiene are being acted up to in it. This additional duty will be performed by them with alacrity if a little addition be made to their emoluments.

18. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 5th August complains that lately one day, Captain MacCay, a Professor of the Calcutta Medical College, called one of the third-year students of the college a "damned fool," and even proceeded so far as to strike him.

19. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th August points out what are believed to be errors in a history book in Bengali by Mr. C. R. Wilson, a text-book for the middle vernacular classes in the Chittagong Division for 1906.

(1) In the chapter on the rise of the Rajputs, the Rajput race are described as being known as the descendants of the "Huns" who were driven out of India by Jasobarman. It is observed that this explanation of the origin of the Rajput race may find favour with one or two European theorists, but that it is one quite repugnant to the ideas of 99 per cent. of Hindus, who believe that the Rajputs are the descendants of the solar and lunar dynasties.

(2) The first Musalman conqueror of Bengal is stated in this book to be not Buktiyer Khiliji, but Buktiyer's son Muhammad.

(3) In the account of the third battle of Paniput, given in the book, it is said that "in this battle two *muktas* (pearls), 27 *swarna mudras* (gold coins) and innumerable soldiers were killed." How can gold coins and pearls be "killed" in a battle?

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

20. The *Manbhum* [Purulia] of the 1st August dwells on the hardship which has been caused to the poorer inhabitants of Purulia town by an order of the local municipality requiring the roofing of all huts now thatched with straw to be henceforth made with tiles.

MANBHUM  
1st August, 1905.

BASUMATI,  
August 5th, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 7th, 1905.

MANBHUM,  
August 1st, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 4th, 1905.

21. In criticising the various official suggestions for new taxation in connection with the Calcutta improvement scheme, the Calcutta improvement scheme. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th August suggests in the first place that some of the new

taxes proposed will require the employment of new agency to collect them; and that therefore the proceeds from these taxes as now estimated by Government must probably be held to have been overestimated.

With reference to the proposed special owner's rate, the opinion is expressed that this tax cannot be held unjustifiable. A strong doubt is expressed as to the justification for the proposed transfer duty and the tax on timber, firewood and on animals slaughtered for food.

The strongest condemnation is, however, reserved for the proposed railway terminal tax. It is urged that the improvement scheme will necessarily unhinge many people who will thereafter be compelled to travel by railway to and fro from Calcutta on business. To compel these people in addition to the loss of their houses to pay a tax would be the climax of oppressiveness. It is suggested that both this railway terminal tax and the tax on petroleum should be given up, since these taxes will reach the poor, who are already paying more in the way of taxes than they can afford. The income thus sacrificed might be made up by contributions from the Railway Companies connected with Calcutta and by a duty on jute at a more enhanced rate than that now actually proposed. The jute duty instead of yielding five lakhs may with ease be made to yield 20 lakhs. And the duty instead of being calculated *ad valorem* may be calculated according to the weight of the bales at the time of export, so that it might be realised by the Customs Department, thereby dispensing with the necessity of the employment of a fresh collecting agency.

(f) — *Questions affecting the land.*

BIHAR BANDHU,  
August 1st, 1905.

22. The *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 1st August has a long letter in its correspondence column complaining against the mismanagement of the Dumraon estate owing

to all lucrative appointments being monopolized by the family members of the present manager and the late Dewan Bhaiya Ramlagen Lal.

RANGPUR  
VARTAVADA,  
August 4th, 1905.

23. The *Rangpur Vartavada* [Rangpur] of the 4th August writes that Mr. Pope, Manager of the Tajhat Estate in Rangpur, is going to build a house for his own use at a cost of Rs. 28,000 from the estate funds. Reference is made to the impropriety of this outlay, considering that in another two years' time the manager must cease to use it, since the minors will then have attained majority. It is further pointed out that the particular site which has been chosen for the location of this house, viz., the neighbourhood of the place where the late Maharaja Gobind Lal Roy was cremated, with a place of worship adjoining, is such as to offend the susceptibilities both of the Dowager Maharani as well as of the general Hindu public, who cannot like the idea of anybody, still less one following a different religion, invading the sanctity of such a neighbourhood by taking up his quarters near it. If this house must be built at all, it should be built in a different location, where, after Mr. Pope is gone, it may be let out on rent.

It is further alleged that on one occasion the Kumar Bahadur went out on a drive in a carriage kept for Mr. Pope's use. Mr. Pope on coming to know of this fined the coachman five rupees.

(g) — *Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

SANDHYA,  
August 4th, 1905.

24. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 4th August draws attention to the inconvenience caused to passengers at Goalundo, Rajbari Junction and Faridpur station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway, owing to the low level of the platforms at these places, and the absence of any sort of roofing over the buildings.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 5th, 1905.

25. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August draws attention to the inconvenience which is alleged to have resulted from a recent alteration in the timing of a train on the East Indian Railway. It appears that daily newspapers are distributed

at all places between Howrah and Bandel not by post, but by messengers. Now, a train hitherto used to leave Howrah every morning for stations up the line at 6, and this was the train which carried the messengers who distributed the newspapers. Now since lately the time of departure from Howrah of this train has been delayed by half an hour, with the result that the newspapers reach their destinations in all cases half an hour later. And this delay of half an hour at this time of the morning means in many cases that persons do not get their papers before they get into their morning trains on their way to Calcutta.

The same paper suggests the running of a new train every evening on the East Indian Railway between Burdwan and Howrah, leaving Burdwan at 6 P.M. It is pointed out that at present the only two trains available in the evening for journey between these two places are those which arrive at Burdwan respectively at 4 P.M. and 8 P.M.

26. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 6th August thanks Sir Andrew Fraser for his sending for the papers relating to the case of Habiban, who was shamefully insulted by a European railway employé. It is to be hoped that His Honour will make a thorough inquiry into this and the Midnapore railway outrage case.

HITAVARTA,  
August 4th, 1905.

(h)—General.

27. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 27th July compares Lord Curzon with some of the Avatars of the Hindu mythology and His Excellency's achievements with those which are attributed to them. His Excellency is also compared with *Kâla*, the all-destroying time. The article concludes with an appeal to the Bengali people to become united in heart, though divided in regard to their government, and to set themselves to the task of improving the arts and manufactures of the country.

HOWRAH HITAISHI,  
July 27th, 1905.

28. The *Hitavarta* [Muradnagar] of the 31st July thanks Lord Curzon for the partition of Bengal, and says that it is a mistake to suppose that the measure will ruin the country. The Government Resolution on the subject should be calmly criticised without bias and prejudice.

HITAVARTA,  
July 31st, 1905.

29. Addressing Lord Curzon, the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 1st August writes as follows:—

CHARU MIHIR  
August 1st, 1905.

The partition and the Bengalis. My Lord! the fact that a spirit of unity is being called into existence throughout India has not given you pleasure. The Roman policy of divide and rule has been the key-note of your administration. We defy your favours and fearlessly say that you are going to block all the paths of prosperity against the Indians. You have satisfied a fierce desire of yours by plunging a sword into the heart of Bengal. You did not shrink from trampling upon the unanimous protest of a whole nation. It is useless to cry before you any longer. The Bengalis will now wear perpetual mourning. You may divide Bengal into a hundred parts, but all Bengalis will remain one in religion, fraternity, nationality and the worship of their mother-country. Whether in the Punjab or in Allahabad, in Madras or in the Himalayas, in Sindh or in Assam, a Bengali will always bow his head in submission before Mother Bengal. So long as Bengal is not reunited, an intense agitation will continue in the country. This agitation may not move your throne, but it will move the throne of Him who is the King of Kings, the conqueror of conquerors and the help and support of the weak. The fierce exercise of your autocratic power has brought the Bengalis to their senses.

CHARU MIHIR,

30. The same paper writes as follows:—  
Boycotting of English goods. The immediate result of the publication of the Government Resolution regarding the partition of Bengal has been to produce in the minds of all Bengalis, young or old, educated or uneducated, the desire not to use English goods. This desire to boycott English goods does not owe its origin to any platform or press agitation. It has risen spontaneously in the minds of the people and is a manifestation of the national feeling roused by the blow of the partition. People have been maddened by the ill-treatment which the country has

received at the hands of the Government. Everyone has come to see that the authorities will never care for public opinion and never look to the welfare of the children of the soil. It is not a Magistrate, not even a Provincial Government, but it is the representative of the Sovereign who is going to divide a nation with the secret object of weakening it.

Will the feeling which now pervades all Bengal be permanent? Will this day of misery really precede the dawn of a glorious future for the country? To this question the reply must be in the affirmativ. Our unity is not being destroyed, our minds are not being divided. Our weakness is rapidly passing away. We are gaining strength, and a spirit of unity now pervades all Bengal.

SWADES HITAISHI,  
August 2nd, 1905.

31. The *Swades Hitaishi* [Rangpur] of the 2nd August writes that the present state of Russia is an example of the terrible pass to which things may come from disregard of the opinions and grievances of their subjects by the rulers of a country. The English, the ruling race in this country, have hitherto done many things for its good, and the people have in return been firmly loyal. Hitherto the English Government has acted in accordance with the ideas and opinions of the people. But during the present *regime*, events have happened which have seriously upset the public mind and caused deep anxiety about the future. It is to be hoped that the British Government will so act henceforth as to restore the old feelings of ease and peace to the minds of their subjects so that there may be no occasion for the rulers to purchase satisfaction for themselves with the blood of the people over whom they rule.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA.  
August 3rd, 1905.

32. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August says that Bengalis are naturally of a calm and peaceful disposition. Political agitation is not their natural element. But the partition of their mother-country has so deeply wounded their feelings that a sudden change has come over their nature, giving rise to a fierce agitation which is going on in every hamlet, village and town in Bengal.

The day is fast approaching when the Prince of Wales will visit Bengal, and had it not been for the partition the Bengalis, in spite of their manifold sorrows and distress, would to day have been busily engaged in making arrangements for a fitting reception of His Royal Highness and his consort. But the heart of Bengal is now too much filled with grief to be occupied with even such a thought as that of the ensuing Royal visit. On the 30th July last a protest meeting was held at Faridpur, in which the President, Chowdhury Alimazzaman, B.A., a Musalman zamindar, warned his co-religionists against being deceived by the erroneous idea that they would be benefited by the creation of a "Musalman Province," as the authorities would call the new province, and pointed out to them that Hindus and Musalmans, however much they might differ in religion, were one in the field of politics. Proposals were then made to boycott English goods and abstain from public festivities as much as possible. The Hon'ble Babu Ambica Charan Majumdar then read out a letter from the Royal Reception Committee asking for subscriptions. Hundreds of voices instantly rose from the meeting unanimously crying, "Not even a cowrie." This is an attitude of the public never before met with in Bengal. The Prince is coming, and what a matter of rejoicing it should be for them. But so hard has been the blow given them by Lord Curzon that their feelings have been diverted even from the object which is nearest their hearts. What a degradation of the national character of the Bengalis! Lord Curzon is ruining the country. His Excellency possibly thinks, what do I care when I have thousands of soldiers to support me? But does he consider which of the two, fear and love, is better?

SANJIVANI,  
August 3rd, 1905.

33. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August writes:—

The partition of Bengal.

On the evening of Monday next, a monster meeting, representative of all Bengal, will be held to protest against the Partition scheme. Delegates are coming to it from all parts of the province. They are coming to carry out an unalterable resolve. Every one of them has come to feel that the time for talk has passed by and the day has come for work. This Town Hall meeting will be the inauguration of a new era.

A monster meeting will be held this time such as was never before held in the Town Hall. The two Zamindars' Associations in Calcutta are co-operating with the Indian Association as organizers of this protest. Every one is anxious to prove that nobody is prepared to accept silently and with bowed head Lord Curzon's scheme.

The titled aristocracy never dare to make a stand against the measures of Government. Specially for fear of being humiliated, nobody readily offers to protest against any mandate of Lord Curzon's. But this time the pang which Lord Curzon has caused, and the scheme which he has prepared to ruin the Bengalis, have removed from every mind all fear of being insulted. All Bengal has become animated with one life.

The leading men of the country will give vent to their feelings at this meeting. Hindus and Musalmans with unanimity will raise a protest against the partition.

The work of this meeting will not end with merely recording a protest. Lord Curzon is resolute in his intentions of knocking on the head the national life of Bengal, and the Bengalis will be equally resolute to adopt all means to keep their father-land undivided. We can see as in a prophet's vision that this resolute attitude of the Bengalis will purge their country of all its woes, will upset Lord Curzon's scheme and will add a hundredfold to the national strength.

We know that in the opinion of many an official Bengalis are a thorn in their side. Nothing has yet succeeded in ruining them. By splitting them up into two, they are now to be weakened. The strength of the race, in all its forms, was gradually finding a focus in Calcutta, and that strength is now to be impaired.

Barisal has set a noble example which is worthy of imitation all over the province. The non-official members of the Local District Board have sent up a Resolution to Government, protesting against the Partition scheme. A similar resolution has also been forwarded by the local municipality under the guidance of their Chairman, Babu Rajani Kanta Das. If Government does not see its way to act according to the request of these members, they will of course do the needful to preserve their self-respect.

Let every District and Local Board and Municipality in Bengal send up a protest against the Partition scheme without delay. And if Government does not accept the sentiments of the representatives of the entire race, let them all resign their offices in order to preserve their self-respect.

At a meeting held at Faridpur on the 30th July last under the presidency of Chowdhury Alimazzaman, B.A., a letter was read by Babu A. C. Mozumdar from the Prince of Wales's Reception Committee calling for subscriptions from the local public. In response to this call the whole of the individual gathering with one voice cried out "We won't contribute a *cowrie*."

The student community of Bengal have bound themselves by the following vow to last until the Partition scheme is withdrawn :—

- (1) Not to use for themselves any article of English make where a native-made article of that description is produced locally, and also to persuade others to do the same.
- (2) Not to join for themselves in any public festivities, and to induce others to do the same.
- (3) To contribute as far as they can to funds having for their object the withdrawal of the Partition scheme.
- (4) To wear mourning until the severed father-land is re-united.

The entire student community have bound themselves by these vows. The brisk business season of the *puja* is approaching. The students are resolute to eschew foreign-made goods as poison. If those engaged in the import trade from England find their merchandise rotting in their godowns and commanding no sale, it will not be long before the Partition scheme is withdrawn.

This time it is the life of the Bengali nation which will have to be saved. The enjoyment of some luxuries will have to be sacrificed at this *puja* season. All the money so saved will have to be devoted to this saving of the life of the nation.

The student community are animated by one purpose, one great vow. Everything will have to be staked to preserve the life of the nation. We shall see who can split up the Bengali people into two; the man who can do so has still to be born.

There is now only one way of saving the Bengali race. It is by all people, Hindus and Musalmans, resolving to boycott all articles of English make where similar things of native manufacture are locally made and procurable. If we can do this, then we can assert with certainty that in six months' time the Partition scheme will be a thing of the past.

Let Hindus and Musalmans resolve to boycott foreign goods. In three months' time cries of distress will be heard all over England. The cotton mills of Manchester will be at a standstill and the roars of the hungry mill-operators will do what the tears of the millions of Bengal have not succeeded in doing. Parliament will be moved and Lord Curzon will in a short while quietly obey the behest of the Ministers at Home and withdraw his scheme.

There have been enough of petitions and appeals; no more of them. Let us now learn to stand on our own legs. Let us resolve henceforth not to use articles of foreign make any more.

The puja season is approaching, when crores' worth of articles of foreign make will be in the markets of Calcutta. Let us swear in the name of our father-land not to buy any cloth of English make this time. Crores' worth of cloth will then lie rotting in the godowns of the English import merchants, and the Government will soon be stirred out of its state of quiescence.

To this proposal to boycott Manchester cloths, some might object that cloths of indigenous manufacture are not available everywhere. To this our reply is that for the sake of our country they must be prepared to put up with some inconvenience. They should go out with ragged clothes on their persons rather than buy cloths of English make. Let it be impressed on all that the use of foreign cloth is a badge of slavery. If a resolve like this is firmly maintained, then there is nobody on earth who can divide Bengal.

The life of the Bengali people is in their own hands. Come let us, in the name of God, swear with all our friends and relations not to touch any foreign-made article where an indigenous article is procurable, and thus good times will soon be restored to Bengal.

Educated young men of Bengal, in this day of dire distress, realise your responsibilities. Each of you should take a firm resolution, until you can rescue your country from its terrible doom, to continue fighting against it. We shall show that we can back up our words by sacrifice and effort. Our relations with John Bull touch the pocket more than the heart. Let us all resolve until this danger passes from sight not to use anything of English make ourselves and to try and induce others to act likewise. Let us set ourselves to this great endeavour.

SANJIVANI,  
August 3rd, 1905.

Protest meetings.

At Pabna	...	...	...	On the 23rd July.
At Jessor.				
At Manikganj.				
At Narsinganj	...	...	...	On the 29th July.
At Birbhum.				
At Barisal	...	...	...	On the 26th July.
At Krishnagar.				
At the Great Eastern Hindu Hostel, Calcutta.				
At Iswarganj, Mymensingh.				
At Rampur Boalia.				
At Bhanga, Faridpur	...	...	...	On the 25th July.
At Berhampur.				
At Jhalkati, Backerganj.				

SANJIVANI.

The Lieutenant-Governor's visit  
to Malda.

at the present juncture.  
any satisfaction from it.

35. In noticing the recent visit of the Lieutenant-Governor to Malda,

the same paper says that with the memory of the Partition scheme so fresh in the minds of the Malda public, the visit will be an inopportune one. Neither the people nor His Honour will derive

36. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 4th August says that internal disunion and dissension have always been the causes of the The effect of Lord Curzon's Indian's degradation and loss of independence. policy of Government.

SAMAY,  
August 4th, 1905.

But the English people with singular generosity took up the task of teaching them self-reliance and self-respect. But the wave of Imperialism has destroyed that spirit of generosity which used to characterise the English, and a change has, consequently, taken place, and the policy which guides the British Government of India, hypocrisy and selfishness on the one hand, and oppression of the weak on the other, has become the order of the day. In this state of things, how can the Indians expect to prosper unless they succeed in acquiring unity, perseverance, patriotism, fellow-feeling and such other high qualities? Sometimes good comes out of evil, and Lord Curzon's repressive measures may have the effect of turning the eyes of the Indians towards themselves, of promoting a spirit of unity and the spirit of true patriotism in their minds.

37. A correspondent of the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 4th August Boycotting of English goods. compares the Bengalis with a race of lambs who would only cry but never show fight however hard they may be beaten, and advises them to give up crying and do such real work as boycotting English goods, making social reforms, &c.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
August 4th, 1905.

38. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th August notices meetings to protest against the Partition scheme:—

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 4th, 1905.

At Ramgopalpur, Iswarganj ...	... } On the 2nd August.
At Madaripur ...	... }
At Rajshahi ...	... } 31st July.
At Nator ...	... }
At Khulna ...	... } 2nd August.

39. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August publishes short Protest meetings. accounts of the protest meetings held at the following places:—

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 5th, 1905.

Bhagalpur ...	... }	3rd August.
Chandpur ...	... }	
Gopalganj, Faridpur ...	... }	
Jalpaiguri ...	... }	
Lamchar, Noakhali ...	... }	2nd August.

40. The same paper writes that with East Bengal and Assam henceforth under the same Government, it will soon come to be looked upon as incongruous that their existing diversity of the system of land revenue should be allowed to be perpetuated.

DAILY HITAVADI.

The land policy of the new Province of East Bengal and Assam. It will come to be felt that the land legislation of the new Legislative Council at Dacca should apply to both these tracts of country without distinction. But this attempt to introduce uniformity where diversity now prevails would be attended with serious difficulty. On the one hand the introduction of the Bengal Permanent Settlement into Assam would mean a serious sacrifice of prospective increase to Government; for in Assam land is rapidly increasing in value with increasing cultivation and immigration. On the other hand the abolition of the Permanent Settlement from East Bengal and the substitution of the system of temporary settlements now prevailing in Assam in its place would mean absolute ruin to the many great zamindars of East and North Bengal. Under the circumstances one awaits with anxiety a definite declaration from Government of its future land-policy in regard to this new province.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 6th, 1905.

41. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 6th August notices meetings to protest against the partition of Bengal at Sarisabari

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 6th, 1905.

Protest meetings. on the 4th July, Mymensingh on the 6th July, Dacca Jagannath College and Simulkandi on the 3rd August, and also at Dinajpur.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 7th, 1905.

42. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th August has the following The Calcutta Town Hall with reference to the Protest meeting at the meeting. Calcutta Town Hall that was to be held on that day:—

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 7th, 1905.

Come then, brethren, let us to-day leave aside all work, and recalling to our mind the action of our forefathers and picturing to ourselves all the dread

future of this terrible calamity, assemble at the monster meeting at the metropolis. To-day we are not Hindus, not Musalmans, not Marwaris, not Marathis,—we are Bengalis, sons of Mother Bengal. Let those who, with the sight of the blood flowing from the riven heart of their mother, feel inclined for festivities, join in them; let those who wish to conciliate the Viceroy by writing an address of welcome in the heart's blood of their mother do so. But any body who retains the least spark of regard for his mother-country, any body who has been fed at the breast of Mother Bengal, let not any such remain inactive to-day. If not within the meeting hall, then outside of it at least shall we assemble. To-day we shall proclaim our opinion with clearness; our rulers will listen to it or not as they like. After that for the means of redress we shall not have to look to our rulers. Who does not know of the stream of wealth which is flowing along the channels of commerce among the English merchants, and which with its thousand side channels has penetrated into the very interior of our homes? How long does it take a country like this to bring the English merchants under control—a country in which a mere rag is enough to cover nakedness? The Goddess of Prosperity presiding over English commerce will be shaken out of her repose if roarings go up from Manchester, Sheffield and Leeds. Therefore it is that we call on you, brethren, once more to come and lay our grievance at the feet of our rulers.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 7th, 1905.

43. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th August publishes an account of a speech recently delivered by Babu Bepin Chandra Pal in the Star Theatre House, Calcutta, on the partition of Bengal. The speaker urged upon the

audience the desirability of establishing native agencies all over Europe and America for diverting India's trade with foreign countries from the hands of European agents in India to those of native agents. The European agents in India who represent foreign mercantile firms make large fortunes with comparatively small capital, and their Chambers of Commerce in this country wield immense power over the Government. If native agencies are opened and properly worked they may gradually succeed in ousting out of the field the existing European agencies or at any rate weakening them. The English should be boycotted. In nothing should they be rendered any help. They should be avoided in every matter and everywhere. A good deal of self-sacrifice will be needed for doing this. But it is only if we succeed in resolutely sticking to this principle that the Government may be made to give way to some extent. Without it speeches and agitations, prayers and petitions, will avail nothing.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 8th, 1905.

44. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th August says that the monster protest meeting held in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on the 7th idem proves beyond doubt or dispute that in spite of their utmost efforts to gain their object, crafty and diplomatic officials will find it impossible to bring about an estrangement between Hindus and Musalmans, separate brother from brother and divide the Bengali nation by an administrative division of Bengal. Hindus and Musalmans have been united and are standing hand in hand like brothers. Never before was there witnessed such a union between the two peoples in Bengal. "We will not allow Bengal to be divided," "We will not use English goods," were the expressions heard from every one's mouth at the above meeting.

DAILY HITAVADI.

Protest meetings.

45. The same paper publishes short accounts of the protest meetings ta the following places:—

Netrakona	...	...	...	3rd August 1905.
Chittagong	...	...	...	
Dacca	...	...	...	
Narayanganj	...	...	...	5th     "     "

BANGAVASI,  
August 5th, 1905.

Doggerels on the Partition question.

46. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August has some doggerels to the following effect:—

all your fads and fancies.  
some over seas. You are deceiving those who are *begârs* at your door and fleecing them to feather your own nest.

Various fancies are taking possession of your mind in a country in which others have to pay for Some are going on missions across mountains and fleecing them to feather your own nest. O incarnation of justice! everybody

wept so bitterly and yet you obstinately made your point good and ruined the country. We learn this one important truth from your proceedings that to the weak you are like a very tiger and that you break their necks, while you let the strong have their own way and do not so much as look at them. Never a word comes out of your mouth when before them and like a cat you withdraw to a corner, close to the wall. Now that you have to deal with the weak you are jumping and gnashing your teeth, while you curled up your tail at the snarling of Kitch kitchini. Having incurred the displeasure of Badragi you are suffering the keenest inward mortification. Having fled before the lion you are drawing your sword upon those who are as dead.

47. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 5th August writes:—

The partition of Bengal. The authorities are in the habit of blaming us for imputing motives. But have they no motive in dividing Bengal? Is it not their real intention to ruin the Bengalis by dividing them?

RATNAKAR,  
August 5th, 1905.

48. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 6th August notices a well-attended meeting which was held at the hall of the Jagannath College at Dacca on the afternoon of the 4th idem under the presidency of Babu Gobinda Chunder Das Gupta, a retired Superintendent of the Nawab's Estate, to protest against the partition of Bengal and to elect delegates for the proposed similar meeting at the Calcutta Town Hall.

49. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 7th August has the following in its English columns:—

"Strike but hear."

It was no doubt admitted that the last Resolution of the Government of India presented a much better scheme of partition than what was proposed in Mr. Risley's original letter in December 1903, but all the same the gravest objection against partition is left absolutely unaffected. The people of Bengal cannot bear the idea of the Bengali-speaking people being placed under two distinct Administrations. The present cry is that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has been too much overburdened with work. We must confess, we have no materials before us to form our own opinion on the point. Government has never thought it fit to place all the papers in this connection before the public. We are not aware if successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal have applied for relief. However, if any partition of the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor is inevitable, pray, why divide Bengal proper; let Bengal and Assam form the new Province. Only two Commissionerships of Bengal proper, viz., the Presidency and the Burdwan are left out. These may be incorporated with the new Province without any difficulty. The population of the two proposed Provinces will be 54 and 30 millions respectively. If the two Commissionerships mentioned above be included in the new Province, then the population will be roughly speaking 37 and 47 millions and this is decidedly a much better distribution than what we find in the Resolution of the Government of India. We find no reasonable objection to it. Even in the last Resolution the Government of India found the necessity of uniting the Uriya-speaking population of Central Provinces to that of Orissa. If that is so in respect of the *uriyas*, why forget that principle when dealing with the Bengali-speaking peoples?

DACCA GAZETTE,  
August 7th, 1905.

Lord Curzon, in spite of the dictatorial tone of the Secretary Mr. Risley's original letter, has acceded to a considerable extent to the popular demand. The original scheme of partition was very different from what it is now. Lord Curzon has been brought up in the constitutional atmosphere of England. It is English blood that runs through his veins; it is impossible for him not to be true to the traditions of his people; it cannot be that he will absolutely trample down upon the popular sentiments affecting such a question of supreme importance. If we can make it clear to His Excellency that the entire Bengali nation has been bleeding from the blow probably dealt by him unawares, he will yet relent. It is left to us how we exhibit our bleeding hearts to him. We are not sure that there are not to be had parasitical men enough in Bengal, who play to the tune that would most please His Excellency when once the bent of his mind is known to them. We hope the interested

voice of the sycophantic creatures, if there be any, will not be mistaken for the voice of the people.

We have been grieved to find that an impression has gained ground in certain quarters that we have been satisfied in having the capital of the new Province at Dacca and we have accepted the partition as it is. In the meeting speaker after speaker resented the idea in the most unmistakable terms and made it clear that a Provincial capital, however welcome, was no compensation for the national loss, the extinction of the solidarity of the Bengali-speaking people.

It is seriously apprehended that the jurisdiction of the High Court will not be maintained over the new Province for a very long time, and that will undoubtedly be a calamity of no small magnitude to the people. The High Court has ever been the strongest bulwark of popular liberties against the encroachment of the Executive. The days of Sir Barnes Peacock and Justice Phear in the High Court will ever be remembered by the grateful people of this Province with joy and hope. We wish their Lordships of the High Court will always emulate the reputation of those distinguished Judges. Even to-day the High Court has been bringing many an erring Executive to their senses to the great relief of the people. We should ever be under the ægis of the Hon'ble Court.

TRIPURA HITAISHI,  
August 8th, 1905.

50. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 8th August writes as follows:—

Government's disregard of native opinion. No one cares for what weak people may say.

Why should the mighty British Government, which has guns and cannon at its back, pay any heed to the plaintive cries of its poor weak subjects? The empire of the strong is built on the ruin of the weak. The strong must starve if the cries of the weak are to be heeded.

SANDHYA,  
August 9th, 1905.

51. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 9th August writes as follows under the heading "Slavishness in Protest":—

{The Town Hall meeting. Alas, is this the resolution come to at the Town Hall meeting, where all the educated, intelligent and moneyed men of Bengal assembled! Fie upon our education, fie upon our intelligence, fie upon our money. It will be impossible to make any progress on the path of manliness, if that progress is to be made with the help of heads which, though repeatedly insulted and humiliated, still seek to lay themselves at the feet of Englishmen, and with the help of hands which are moving forward but are again coming back folded and asking for alms. Have we become so habituated to begging that we can utter nothing but the words "give us alms" "give us alms?" Many people had requested the projectors of the Town Hall meeting not to make the whole Bengali people ludicrous by sending a fresh petition to the Secretary of State. The newspapers, too, are writing on the subject. Many Vakils and Barristers of the High Court had made written requests to the projectors of the meeting not to go again to Government with the beggar's wallet on one's shoulder. But nothing could move the projectors from their purpose. This is the way our leaders voice the feelings of the people. Why then are they pained when Lord Curzon slights their opinion? If the projectors of the meeting went about from door to door asking each individual Bengali's opinion regarding the meeting, they would be told that the people had not the least faith any more in such agitation; that if they went, barking like wretched curs, before the Secretary of State again, they would be given a kick, the pain of which they would not easily forget. However, nothing could dissuade the projectors, and the meeting was held. It was attended by a vast concourse of people. But what the Anglo-Indian journal, the *Englishman*, says about it is that it is not in the least likely that the demonstration will produce any visible effect upon either the Government of India or the India Office. The letter written in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* by a prominent Bengali gentleman advising his countrymen to boycott English goods has, however, caused uneasiness to the *Englishman*. The next moment, however, the *Englishman* reassures its countrymen that there is little likelihood of the whole Bengali nation combining to carry out this suggestion. The resolution actually passed at the Town Hall meeting regarding this question has perhaps been all the more reassuring to the *Englishman*. For the meeting only passed a resolution sympathising with the mafassal people who have taken the resolution

to boycott English goods. The sentiment embodied in the resolution was as expressive of unmanliness as the language in which it was couched was alien. The mufassal people had at least the courage to take the definite resolution of boycotting British goods, but the projectors of the Town Hall meeting had not even that courage. They stood behind, as it were, and constantly warned the speakers to beware and soften the tone of their speeches.

The Chairman of the meeting and Babu Nalin Behari Sircar appealed to the Englishman's sense of fairness. But in what acts of Englishmen they found this sense of fairness is more than the writer can say. History tells us that though the Christian religion deprecates slave trade, Englishmen did not give up slave trade till they came to see that it cost less to have their work done by paid labourers than to entertain slaves for the purpose. We, however, have come to look upon Englishmen as the very incarnations of fairness and justice, and in this belief humble ourselves at their feet, though we get nothing in return but kicks. What good will it do to make ourselves the laughing stock of others by indulging in political agitation so long as this love of slavery continues to be the marrow of our bones? The truth is that our leaders are perpetually in dread lest the English should suspect their loyalty and should some day arrest them as rebels. Otherwise, it would be difficult to explain the very repeated use of the word "constitutional" at the Town Hall meeting. It may be that we are slaves; but have we not even the liberty of purchasing what goods we like or of resigning honorary posts under the Government? There is nothing unlawful in doing either of these. The fact is that, however much we may repeat the words liberty and self-respect, we are not able to shake off the feeling of slavishness which sits firm in our nature.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

52. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 7th August draws attention to the pitiable condition of Bhudrajit Sinha, son of Bhudrajit, son of Tikanderjit. Tikendrajit Sinha, of Manipur, and says that it would have redounded to the credit of the Government if some provision had been made by it for his maintenance.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
August 7th, 1905.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

53. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 2nd August writes as follows under the heading "The beginnings of Self-Government":—

BARISAL,  
HITAISHI,  
August 2nd, 1905.

If all the people are animated by one life then India's fate may turn propitious in a moment's time. People can easily stop the importation of foreign goods into the Calcutta markets. Young men, look to the history of America, remember the example of Robert Bruce of Scotland. You will then see that the traitors to their race will wish themselves buried under the earth. The service of the fatherland which seems so impracticable to-day will to-morrow be converted into actual fact. Let hundreds on hundreds of youths unite and tell the native shop-keepers that they are not to import foreign goods any more. And then let us see who dares to act contrary to your request. Unless you can do this, all your agitation will prove to be mere brag. The world will turn into darkness for you, in which you will sink into oblivion. Awake and arise.

54. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August notices two recent cases of alleged assault by Europeans on Indians—the first in Calcutta in which Robert Russel, of Messrs. Burn & Co., is said to have poked into the eyes of a *manjhee* with the handle of his umbrella, and the second at Benares, in which a Government official whipped and severely wounded a cart-driver who stood in the way of his passing carriage; and then goes on to remark:—

SANJIVANI,  
August 3rd, 1905.

The poorer native citizens must be protected from this sort of oppression at the hands of Europeans. Similarly females must be protected while travelling on railways from white-skinned beasts. It is not the part of a man to rest content merely with sighs of despair or with expressions of impotent rage. It has become urgently necessary to form a combination of strength in Calcutta and the mufassal towns for the prevention of outrages like these.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 4th, 1905.

55. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th August writes:—

In all countries there is an identity between the service of the State and the interests of the rulers and the interests of the general public. The interests of the governed are the interests of the governors. The welfare of the one means the welfare of the other. But to our misfortune a quite opposite state of things prevails in our country. The things which injure the interests of the Indian people are the things which serve the interests of the Emperor of India or of his representative. The things in which the officials have an interest are the very things which affect the interests of the Indians injuriously. Such an incongruous state of things is rarely seen to prevail in any country. In other countries it is the officials who can subserve the real good of the country. But in our country no good can be done to our country unless one keeps aloof from the public service.

HITAVADI,  
August 4th, 1905.

56. The following is an extract from an article written by Babu Charu Chandra Ray, M.A., and published in the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th August:—

So long we worshipped our Sovereign because we thought that he was our only friend, one who would give us food and save us from all troubles. But the sad experience of a century and a half has had the effect of dispelling this mistaken idea from our minds. We have understood that the Sovereign is a man who does not care whether we live or die so long as he receives his due. He is not prepared to listen to our complaints and grievances because he thinks that he knows more of our wants than we do ourselves. It has always been the custom with all Sovereigns blinded by selfishness to use arguments like this to serve their selfish purposes. The only being who knows where the pain we feel is located, although we ourselves may not know it, is the all-knowing God, and history is not wanting in examples of men who, in the pursuit of selfish ends and puffed up with vanity caused by the possession of power, did not shrink from taking the place of God. We are indebted to the English for two things contributing to healthy development of a spirit of unity among us namely, (1) their language, and (2) oppression committed by their officials. If we cannot make good use of these two means, there is no hope for us. Lord Lytton truly says:

"To suffer in vain is often the lot of individuals; but when a people suffer in vain let them curse themselves."

DAILY HITAVADI,  
August 4th, 1905.

57. The following extracts from a leaflet which was circulated among the audience at the meeting against the partition of Bengal held at the Star Theatre, Calcutta, on the afternoon of the 3rd August last, when Babu Bepin Chandra Pal was the speaker, are reproduced in the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August:—

The initial principles of the worship of one's mother-country—

- (1) Freedom is the end and aim of all creatures by the laws of their nature and their greatest asset. And without the attainment of this freedom, nobody can ever attain the *summum bonum* of human life.
- (2) Self-government is the one system of Government with which, in the world of politics, the state of freedom natural to all creatures is compatible.
- (3) Self-government is the one system of Government on earth ordained by God; all other systems of Government owe their origin to bonds, and are obstructive of salvation.
- (4) On these grounds, I shall devote the whole of my life to efforts, direct and indirect, for the establishment of Self-government in all things in my society.
- (5) Although I know that Self-government does not at present exist in the country, and although I admit no other form of Government but one of Self-Government to be binding, still having regard to the present circumstances of the country, and having regard to the dangers of misfortune in the future, I shall conduct myself in obedience to such laws and rules of the existing foreign Government as must be obeyed.

(6) But although oppressed by poverty and misfortune, I shall never accept service under this Government, and I shall, as in the discharge of a religious duty, try my best to keep myself and my countrymen from contact and sympathy with it in everything.

In the name of God and with a prayer for the blessings of my ancestors, with an eye to the present hapless condition of my fatherland, and with a mental vision of her future progress and glory, I make these resolves. May God help me to keep them!

58. The *Daily Hitawadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th August writes that as a consequence of repeated acts of high-handedness on the part of the officials in this country and the

DAILY HITAWADI,  
August 6th, 1905.

indifference with which the authorities in England view these acts, there is a possibility that the feeling of loyalty with which the Indian hitherto regarded his Sovereign may receive a shock. It would be a grave misfortune if it does. Not ashamed of the deadly injury he has done to the Bengali people, Lord Curzon is cheerfully calling upon them to join in festivities for the Royal reception. The call, under the circumstances it is being made, may be compared to the aiming of a thunderbolt at the heads of the people. Bengalis are now placed in the dilemma of having to chose between their loyalty to their Prince on the one hand and their loyalty to their race and country on the other. If the whole province elects to follow the lead of Mymensingh, Magura and Faridpur, then a most difficult situation will have been created. Under the circumstances, the authorities should so arrange that the Prince may not visit Bengal at all on this calamitous occasion.

59. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 6th August has the following:—

HITAVARTA,  
August 6th, 1905.

The Indians in the Transvaal. Every one knows how the Indians are treated by the people of the Transvaal; they are kicked, beaten by shoes and trodden over and are not allowed to walk through the footpaths of the public road and to travel by carriage. Although they live in the Transvaal yet they have no claim upon its soil, and various obstacles are put in the way of their trades. It is strange that the same English people are rulers of India as well as South Africa, but a great difference lies between the subjects of an independent and a dependent country. Our ruler is more attentive to the interest of the white race than that of the coloured: this is the cause of our misfortune. May God save us from such misery.

60. The same paper is sorry that the Indians' prayer and their agitation are ignominiously trampled over by the rulers of this country. If they do not try to protest against such treatment their lives are worth nothing. If the Indians one and all make a common cause, surely they shall be successful.

HITAVARTA,

The growing unity amongst Indians. Referring to the letter of a correspondent of the *Pioneer* regarding the "yellow peril" and the danger likely to arise from the growing unity of the people of India, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 7th August refutes the idea of unity and gives reasons to show that it is simply impossible in this country.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
August 7th, 1905.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

62. The *Uriya and Navasavvad* [Balasore] of the 26th July states that though there was much rain in Balasore last week, its distribution over the district was not uniform.

The weather in Balasore. Thus some parts of that district still stand in need of rain.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAVVAD,  
July 26th, 1905.

63. The same paper mourns the death of Babu Gopal Prasad Singh, late Teacher, Cuttack Medical School, and of Babu Prabhakar Mahanti, late Income-tax Assessor, and sympathises with their bereaved families. Both the gentlemen were esteemed members of the native community to which they belonged. The *Utkal Lipika* [Calcutta] of the 29th July also joins in the mourning.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAVVAD.

64. The same paper requests the Commissioner of the Orissa Division and the Superintendent of the Medical School, Cuttack, to frame more favourable rules for the admission of Uriya students into that school and

URIYA AND  
NAVASAVVAD,

Admission of Uriya students to the Cuttack Medical School.

to have the existing rules so modified as to suit the educational qualifications of the Uriya candidates. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 29th July makes a similar request.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
July 26th, 1905.

65. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 26th July publishes in its correspondence column a long letter from a Cuttack correspondent giving a clue to the crime of stone-throwing, reported in the last two weeks, which, if followed up, may result in the punishment of the offenders, but the Cuttack police are indifferent, as some constables and one head constable are said to be implicated in the mischievous affair. The Divisional Commissioner, the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police are therefore requested to pay some attention to the matter.

66. Referring to the Government Resolution on the partition of Bengal, the same paper is glad to learn that the district of Sambalpur with its attached Uriya-speaking Feudatory States will be transferred to Bengal, and suggests that the Uriya-speaking districts of the new Bengal, including those that are in the Chota Nagpur and Burdwan Divisions, should be formed into a single Division. Its contemporary of the *Utkaldipika*, though satisfied with the arrangement, has reason to regret the transfer of the Rajshahi and Dacca Divisions to Assam, and hopes that His Excellency the Viceroy will make some concessions to the Bengalis affected by the arrangement, as the reasons alleged in favour of the transfer are neither strong nor convincing. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 29th July is disappointed to find that the Uriya-speaking districts of Madras have not been transferred to Bengal.

67. Referring to the increase of the Municipal and latrine rates in the Cuttack Municipality, the same paper agrees with its contemporaries of the *Utkaldipika* and the *Star of Utkal* in their observations that the assessment is unfair and that the Appeal Committee does not discharge its duties properly and hopes that the Appeal Committee will now modify its policy and correct the mistakes committed by the Assessor, thereby removing discontent and dissatisfaction from the minds of the ratepayers.

68. The same paper hastens to correct its mistake, reported in paragraph 69 of the weekly report, dated the 22nd July 1905, Mr. Growse and the Puri pilgrim hospital. and states that a sum of Rs. 500 was granted to the Puri pilgrim hospital by Mr. Growse in his public capacity as Commissioner of the Orissa Division.

69. The same paper explains its attitude toward the Bengali-Uriya controversy by the statement that the silence and indifference of its Uriya contemporaries has compelled it to side with the qualified domiciled Bengalis, who do not obtain a fair portion of the Government patronage that is justly their due. It has no desire to quarrel with the Uriyas though it cannot forget the invaluable assistance that the foreign Bengalis render to their domiciled brethren.

70. The same paper gives the substance of the proceedings of the Panchayat unions in Balasore. Conference lately held in Balasore in connection with the Chaukidari Union and maintenance of records and agrees with the Hon'ble Mr. Savage in thinking that the Panchayat union may lead to the correction of mistakes generally committed by the police in supplying information to Government.

71. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 27th July states that it rains every day to the great delight of the cultivators, who are busy with their field operations.

72. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 29th July approves of the appointment of Babu Mohini Mohan Dhar, the late State Judge of the Mayurbhanj State, as Dewan of that State, and suggests that after his deserving officers are promoted, the Maharaja should see his way to admit a qualified Uriya into his service.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,  
July 27th, 1905.

GARJATBASINI,  
July 29th, 1905.

73. The *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 29th July is of opinion that the state of primary education in Puri and Ganjam is very backward and that some improvement is needed in that direction. The attention of the district and divisional authorities is drawn to the same.

STAR OF UTKAL,  
July 29th, 1905.

74. The same paper states that the police of Kendrapara are acting in a manner calculated to shake the confidence of the public in them. A police officer, while under cross-examination in the Kendrapara Court, had the audacity to snatch away papers from the hands of a respectable pleader, who was engaged by the defence. Had any other witness committed such an act, he would have been prosecuted for contempt of the Court. The dealings of the police with the local Sub-Registrar, who is a respectable gentleman of the station, are such as to lead people to believe that the police are bent on tyranny and mischief. Such a state of things at Kendrapara cannot conduce to the security and contentment of its inhabitants.

STAR OF UTKAL.

75. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 29th July states that in the Cuttack town some days of the last week were extremely warm, while the other days were cloudy but without rain. Some parts of the interior of the district got good showers, but most parts of the district are without rain-water.

UTKALDIPAKA,  
July 29th, 1905.

76. The same paper states that cholera has broken out in the Cuttack town and that two deaths were due to this cause.

UTKALDIPAKA.

77. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper says that some showers of rain in the last week in Jajpur have enabled the cultivators to proceed with their transplantation work.

UTKALDIPAKA.

78. The Puri correspondent of the same paper says that a virulent type of cholera is raging in that town and that about 60 deaths in one week were due to this cause.

UTKALDIPAKA.

79. The same correspondent says that though some showers of rain fell in the last week in the Puri district, the cultivators stand in need of more rain.

UTKALDIPAKA.

80. The same paper supports the opinion of its Aul correspondent that the study of Vedanta, Upanishad, Purana, Smriti (Law), Nyaya (Logic), Ayurveda (Medicine) and Astronomy should be encouraged in the Sanskrit tols in Orissa, and that Grammar and Kavya (poetry) need not occupy the whole time of the teachers and students.

UTKALDIPAKA.

81. The same paper regrets to find that the Cantonment Magistrate of Cuttack has so increased the rent of the grazing grounds in the Cuttack Cantonment as to put the owners of cattle in the western part of the town to the greatest inconvenience and trouble. The rate of rent per bullock, cow or calf was 12 annas per annum under the *ijaradari* system that was in force three years ago. The Cantonment Magistrate abolished the *ijara* system and took the administration of the grazing grounds into his own hands. As a result the rate per animal was raised to one rupee per annum. In the present year the rate per animal has gone up to Re. 1-8 on the average. This abnormal increase will produce a telling effect on the sanitation of the town, for the cattle-owners, who are not in affluent circumstances, will be compelled to remove their animals to distant places, and, as a consequence, the price of pure milk will rise and many residents of Cuttack will have no milk to drink. This will no doubt particularly affect the health of children who depend for their very existence on milk. The writer therefore draws the attention of the District Magistrate and the Divisional Commissioner to the subject and hopes that they will induce the Cantonment Magistrate to reduce the rates of rent without any delay.

UTKALDIPAKA.

82. The same paper regrets to learn that the Puri Municipality are inclined to let the right of shaving the heads, cheeks and chins of pilgrims, who repair to the sacred bank of Markandey tank in that town, to

UTKALDIPAKA.

A complaint against the Puri Municipality.

a Muhammadan, and observes that this inclination, if given effect to, will produce a sensation in the minds of the members of the Hindu community all over India. The writer strongly urges the Municipality not to put the right to auction, but so to manage as to induce all the sections of the barbers to keep the right to themselves on the payment of fair and equitable rent. The Municipality may induce them to build a decent and commodious shed on the bank of Markandeya to protect themselves and the pilgrims from the effects of inclement weather.

UTKALDIPAKA,  
July 29th, 1905.

83. The same paper regrets to learn that Babu Jagamohan Ghosh, the Dewan of the Narsingpur State, left the Narsingpur garh station on tour on the afternoon of the 19th July last, that on the 20th

Death of the Dewan of Narsingpur. and 21st of the same month he was found to inspect the boundaries of Baramba and Narsingpur, that he was all along travelling in a boat that had a crew of thirteen men; that he was found to sleep in the boat at 10 P.M. on the night of the 21st, and that on the morning of the 22nd he was missing. On the information reaching the Raja, he inspected the spot on the night of the 22nd. The dead body of the Dewan was found floating near the Cuttack-Kathjuri Railway bridge and was recognised by his friends and relatives at Cuttack, who under the direction of the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals had the body examined by the Civil Surgeon of Cuttack. The report of the Doctor is not known to the public, but it is said that the dead body had reached a high stage of decomposition and that the Doctor was unable to find out anything in particular. The Dewan was an experienced Manager and had served 16 years as Assistant Manager and Manager of Dhenkanal. He was in Narsingpur for two years. Government was in no way dissatisfied with his work. His character was above suspicion. He was religious, charitable and accessible. His death has cast a gloom on the educated society in Cuttack. It may be that his death was due to an accident, but the inability of the thirteen men, who were present with him in the same boat, to explain the cause of his sudden disappearance raises a suspicion, which can only be removed by a thorough and fair investigation. The writer hopes that the constituted authorities will issue special orders for a careful and intelligent investigation of the case.

UTKALDIPAKA.

84. The same paper continues its article on municipal assessment at Cuttack, and points out further irregularities in the proceedings of the Municipal Assessor and the Appeal Committee. The writer is of opinion that

Municipal assessment at Cuttack. 40 per cent. of the appeals have been unjustly dismissed, and hopes that some public-spirited gentlemen of the station will carry some of the cases to the Civil Court, where the alleged irregularities can be easily determined and remedied. The writer thinks that the union of the executive and judicial functions in the same person or persons has brought about this deplorable state of things and that those who have any respect for the principle of Local Self-Government must beware of the evil.

#### ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSA,  
Jul, 31st, 1905.

85. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 31st July pleads for the re-establishment of the dispensary which until lately existed at Patharkandi in the Narainganj subdivision. It is urged that this place is an important one in the subdivision, the seat of a big *hat* (fair) a forest office, an outpost, a registry office, a school, etc. Besides, the old dispensary was abolished simply owing to a falling off in the number of patients attending it on one particular occasion. The number of patients attending was not correctly entered in the dispensary books owing to the incompetence of the Hospital Assistant in charge at the time.

PARIDARSA.

86. The same paper, in noticing the action of the Chief Commissioner of Assam in sending a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet strongly censuring Mr. Ommaney, one of his subordinate Extra Assistant Commissioners, suggests that a mere censure is not adequate punishment for the offences of which Mr. Ommaney has been guilty. He should have been deprived of first class powers or degraded to

a Sub-Deputy Magistracy. If he had been an Indian, he would very probably have been placed on suspension.

87. The same paper writes as follows in English :—

Every one is pleased with our present Sessions Judge, whose object in view is to do justice. This view should be observed by every Magistrate; and

"Vagaries of Hakims in Sylhet." he will be praised by the public whose guiding star is to do justice because the public always want it.

Bad livelihood case, section 110, Criminal Procedure Code, is bailable; we are wonderstruck that Mr. F. Anley, Extra Assistant Commissioner of Sadar, being a senior and wise man ordered *hajat* of four men, namely, Sekh Ichai and others, who were released on bail by him before. These four fellows on a reference to our wise Senior Judge are released on bail, as the order of *hajat* is quite illegal. To send accused to *hajat* in a bailable case is not an exceptional case with Mr. F. Anley, Extra Assistant Commissioner. He sent Jamil and others accused of a bad livelihood to *hajat*, and on an application to the Sessions Judge they are also released on bail. Section 107, Criminal Procedure Code cases, are also bailable, but Mr. F. Anley sent some accused to *hajat* who delayed in showing cause and on a reference to the Sessions Judge they are also released on bail. Many find fault with Mr. Owmaney for his whimsical orders. But we now see there are many who murder law. The present Subdivisional Officer of Sonamganj, Srijut K. L. Boruba, has bound down many under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, without taking evidence under section 117, Criminal Procedure Code, merely upon the police report, and on an application to the Deputy Commissioner they were discharged. To do justice is one thing and not to do anything is a quite different thing. The criminal appeals in the Court of the Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet, are decided summarily in some cases: of the appeals that he heard up to date there are very few acquittals. This goes to say that subordinate Magistrates are acting very wisely, that their orders are not required to be reversed. To dismiss an appeal is a very easy thing; one word suffices; whereas to reverse the order of the lower court requires some amount of labour to read the records minutely and to meet the grounds urged by the appellant's pleader and also to write some lines more to make lower court's judgment erroneous.

After all Mr. F. Anley, Extra Assistant Commissioner, is an able officer. He understands things very nicely. Every one is pleased with him. He tries criminal cases with due care and caution. Nobody is displeased with him on that account. But we can't say in what point of view he sent the accused to *hajat* in a bailable case.

PARIBARAK,  
July 31st, 1905.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 12th August, 1905.



CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 32 of 1905.

## REPORT (PART II)

ON

# NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 12th August 1905.

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111 ГРАДУСА

ДОЖДЬ АЛГАРДАВИИ НАДОМ СТАНОВИЛСЯ

ДОЖДЬ АЛГАРДАВИИ НАДОМ СТАНОВИЛСЯ

## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

1011. The proudest European monarch, writes the *Bengalee*, has reason to envy the President of the American Republic, especially in his glorious rôle of a national peace-conference.

The vexed and anxious question of precedence among the envoys was decided with perfect tact in spite of Russia's principle never to yield precedence to any power. But Japan has won her position by her own sword; and no nation in the world need be ashamed of yielding to her the place of honour, as was recently exemplified on the occasion of the reception of the envoys by President Roosevelt. May the negotiations so auspiciously begun through the instrumentality of the American President, terminate in the conclusion of lasting peace.

BENGALEE,  
12th Aug. 1905.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

1012. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the Mymensingh slander case would probably have borne a different aspect if Messrs. Savage and Neville had been cited as

witnesses by the defence, but it was feared that as both these gentlemen had conferred with the Lieutenant-Governor regarding Miss Mell, they would probably, in the course of severe cross-examination, have divulged details which would have compromised His Honour's position. On this account it is said that pressure was put on Mr. Lee not to appeal. The journal hopes that this is not true, as Mr. Lee owes it to himself as well as the public to test the correctness of the severe punishment that has been inflicted on him. The question also naturally arises whether the fine has been borne by all the officials concerned in the Mell case, from the Lieutenant-Governor downwards.

The *Patrika* criticises Mr. Justice Stephen's conduct, which it holds has called forth universal disapprobation, and considers that the ridicule to which he subjected Mr. Lee's natural infirmity of deafness was extremely ungentlemanly. Then, again, was Mr. Justice Stephen justified in allowing offensive questions to be put to the defendant and his witnesses, in spite of the salutary provisions of the Evidence Act? It is owing to the unfair and offensive manner in which witnesses are permitted to be questioned by members of the legal profession that the public regard it as a calamity to be called on to give evidence in a Court of Justice. The *Patrika* urges Mr. Lee to lay his case before a higher tribunal.

1013. In a subsequent issue the same journal writes that, as it anticipated, the imputations made by Mr. Justice Stephen in the course of his judgment in the Mymensingh slander

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
8th Aug. 1905.

case have called forth resentment, and it is to be regretted that the learned Judge should have cast aspersions on gentlemen who were not present to answer for themselves, as in the case of the Rev. Mr. Shore. Mr. Palit was similarly sinned against, and it now transpires that he did not appear as a witness because he was not given his legitimate fees by the defence. The *Patrika* reminds Mr. Justice Stephen that Judges cannot be too careful of the utterances they make from the Bench, as by them they may run the risk of losing public esteem.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
10th Aug. 1905.

## (d)—Education.

1014. The *Indian Mirror* is surprised that the Bombay Educational

The supply of vernacular Text-  
books by English firms.

Department should have given an English firm of publishers a contract for the supply of vernacular text-books for the extraordinary period of ten years, without calling for any tender and without asking for any guarantee that the books would be delivered in a certain time. This savours of undue partiality and favouritism which are nothing short of scandalous. In the Bengal Presidency it is known that keen rivalry exists among certain English firms for the supply of vernacular text-books, but is the Government in the habit of entering into a contract with any particular firm for a stated period? Interpellation in the

INDIAN MIRROR,  
30th July 1905.

Bengal Council should clear the point. *A propos* of this, the journal writes that ever since the introduction of the modern system of vernacular education, most of the Indian authors and firms have been ousted from the field by English competitors, with the result that vernacular compilations, unique in point of style, grammar, and treatment of subject are being spread broadcast throughout the student world to its great detriment.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
5th Aug. 1905.

1015. The *Indian Mirror* writes that while the country has been advancing intellectually, its moral and spiritual progress have been almost at a standstill, and is glad to find that a numerously signed memorial has been submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy urging "the compulsory introduction, in a general form, of moral teaching into all institutions in India." The benefits resulting from a well-considered scheme of moral education would be manifold, and if based on broad, unsectarian principles, would not hurt the feelings of any denomination. Moral training is an essential part of the educational system of Japan, and this must also be the case as far as Indian youths are concerned, if they are to be reclaimed from the deplorable laxity into which they have been allowed to slide. The journal writes that Sir Andrew Fraser has earned the deep gratitude of the Indian community by giving the memorial his sympathy and support.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
10th Aug. 1905.

Raising the standard of pass marks for the Entrance Examination.

1016. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that at the last special meeting of the Senate the pass marks in English Literature for the Entrance Examination were raised from 33 to 36. Now if 50 per cent. of the students cannot pass the examination under the present circumstances, the percentage of failures will obviously be higher when the pass marks are raised. Another meeting will be held to decide what the pass marks in Arithmetic should be. The journal sees a deep significance in this 'reform,' and is of opinion that the originators of the 'reformed' University will by these simple devices place higher education beyond the reach of 90 per cent. of Indian students.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
5th Aug. 1905.

1017. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* takes serious exception to the Chief Engineer's attitude towards Mr. Apcar when

The Calcutta Corporation.

the latter made certain allegations against him, and

considers that if facts were misrepresented by Mr. Apcar, the Chairman should have pointed them out when he was interpellated on the subject and then have let the matter drop, instead of permitting a servant of the Corporation to use improper language towards a member. Then, again, the statement that the Chief Engineer was allowed to put on the table contradicting the allegations made against him, was not circulated, so that the Commissioners were not in a position either to support or refute the Chief Engineer's statements. It was also most unfair that the meeting was adjourned before Mr. Apcar had an opportunity of speaking. Such a state of affairs could only be possible under the Mackenzie Act.

BENGALEE,  
8th Aug. 1905.

1018. The *Bengalee* understands that a representation has been submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor complaining of the action of the District Magistrate of Burdwan in rejecting the member elected by the Sadar

Local Board to represent that body on the District Board. Under the rules each Local Board is to meet within a month of the date of the Gazette notification to elect its representatives to the District Board, and in the event of any Local Board failing to do so the Government will elect a representative to make the appointment to the Board. In the case of the Sadar Local Board of Burdwan, no meeting was called by the District Magistrate within the prescribed time, so that it lost its right of election. The District Magistrate, however, asked the members to convene an informal meeting and elect any of their number they thought fit. The recommendations were forwarded to the Commissioner, who suggested that Government should appoint a man to represent the Sadar Local Board. The District Magistrate acquiesced in this and informed that body that as they had failed to comply with the rules

they forfeited the right of election. The journal points out that the District Magistrate was himself to blame for not convening a meeting within the allotted time, and hopes that the Lieutenant-Governor will uphold the election of the Sadar Local Board.

1019. The *Bengalee* understands that the proprietor of the land adjoining the mosque in Ruttoo Sircar's Street has resubmitted to the Corporation a plan of the building he proposes to erect thereon. As this would interfere

with the light and ventilation of the mosque, the Muhammadan community have again opposed the application, and it is to be hoped that it will again be rejected in view of the opinion expressed by the Commissioner of Police that the proposed structure would give rise to a serious disturbance.

1020. The *Bengalee* writes that at a recent meeting of the Kalna Local Board, the Subdivisional Officer and a non-official gentleman were elected district delegates. The

The Kalna election. election of the former was vetoed by the District Magistrate on the ground that it was illegal, and the members of the Local Board were asked to hold a fresh election for the vacant seat on the District Board. At this stage the Vice-Chairman of the Kalna Local Board wrote to the Magistrate saying that a fresh election was unnecessary and that the candidate who stood third at the first election should be declared to have been elected. In a weak moment the Magistrate approved of this suggestion, and thus sanctioned a course that was illegal, as the said candidate had not secured an absolute majority and there was no certainty that he would have headed the poll in a fresh election. The journal accordingly hopes that the Government will not sanction the Magistrate's recommendation.

1021. The *Bengalee*'s sympathies are entirely with Mr. Apcar in his dispute with Mr. McCabe, the Chief Engineer of the Corporation. The journal endorses the view that Mr. McCabe has been anything but a model officer, and is unable to understand why the Chairman opposed and ruled out of order the second part of Mr. Apcar's amendment suggesting the appointment of a Special Committee to inquire into the Chief Engineer work. The *Bengalee* points out that if the Corporation has the power to appoint, dismiss, or fine the Chief Engineer, it also has the power to appoint a Committee to inquire into his work, and hence the Chairman's enquirin under what section the proposed Committee was going to be appointed was unnecessary.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

1022. The *Bengalee*'s Barakar correspondent writes that there is a rumour East Indian Railway. to the effect that the East Indian Railway authorities intend discontinuing the 23-Up and 24-Down Howrah-Barakar passenger. The writer urges that such an arrangement will cause great inconvenience to the people of the coal district, who generally avail themselves of the latter train to attend the Raniganj and Burdwan Courts and to make purchases Baidyabati and other places. Many also find it convenient to return by the 23-Up after finishing their business in Calcutta. Further, these are the trains most convenient for Indian ladies travelling to and from Barakar, and this is an additional reason why the Railway Company should not discontinue them.

(h)—*General.*

1023. All the reasons, writes the *Indian Nation*, that have been assigned for the partition agitation. the partition measure may be embodied in the one objection that Bengal is too large for one Lieutenant-Governor. The fallacies of this argument have been completely exposed, and it is not enough to say that Bengal is too extensive for a single ruler, any more than India is too big for one Viceroy or the British Empire too big for one Sovereign. As the population increases and concerns become complex, the need arises for more local officers, not of more ruling heads. The India of to-day is not the India of Dalhousie, and the British Empire of to-day is not the same as

BENGALEE,  
10th Aug. 1905.

BENGALEE,  
11th Aug. 1905.

BENGALEE,  
11th Aug. 1905.

BENGALEE,  
12th Aug. 1905.

INDIAN NATION,  
31st July 1905.

that of Queen Elizabeth's time, but nevertheless England continues to be governed by one Sovereign and one Parliament, and Lord Curzon has not yet proposed a division of the Viceroyalty. The simple truth is that the Government has no leg to stand upon and nothing like a necessity for partitioning the province has been proved. It would be hopeless for Indian agitators to endeavour to secure a reversal of the orders already passed, but it cannot be a waste of energy to let the world know that Lord Curzon has originated this measure without a pretence of reason and in contempt of the wishes, sentiments, and interests of the people affected by it.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
4th Aug. 1905.

1024. The *Indian Mirror* cannot bring itself to believe that the growth of the population of Bengal has got anything to do with the partition question. The hollowness of the

The partition agitation.  
contention is apparent from the fact that former Lieutenant-Governors used to satisfactorily discharge the burden of governing the same province under far more unfavourable and trying circumstances. If present-day rulers are unable to achieve the same results with all the quick and improved modes of communication at their disposal, it points to a distinct deterioration in point of administrative ability. If growth of population is an argument in favour of partition, why should not India have two Viceroys? Has, however, any such proposal ever been made? On the contrary, Lord Curzon would gladly have annexed Tibet and some other trans-frontier provinces to India. Thus the journal cannot trace the partition of the province to any administrative need, but to Lord Curzon's obstinate will.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
5th Aug. 1905.

1025. Continuing, the *Mirror* writes that the country has truly fallen upon evil times, for while the authorities profess to have

*Ibid.*

the greatest solicitude for the preservation of ancient relics and monuments, they do not hesitate to disturb the natural division of the country and so bring about a territorial revolution. There is a strong rumour that Darbhanga will be separated from Muzaffarpur and formed into a first class district. The division of Midnapore is also under the consideration of Government. It is clear that Lord Curzon has been seized with the Yankee longing of 'licking creation into shape.'

BENGALEE,  
6th Aug. 1905.

1026. The *Bengalee* writes that the Calcutta Town Hall protest meeting was one in which all sections of the Indian people gathered to offer their united and earnest protest

*Ibid.*

against the partition of their province and the consequent severance of the ties that nature has forged with her own hands. The journal, however, despairs of any success attending constitutional agitation in this country unless it is backed by passive resistance, and recommends the boycotting of foreign manufactures as the most successful way of drawing the serious attention of the British public towards Indian affairs. The popular feeling at this crisis is intense, and Indians are prepared to make any sacrifice for their country.

INDIAN NATION,  
7th Aug. 1905.

1027. The *Indian Nation* vetoes such silly devices as boycotting foreign goods or throwing up honorary offices, and considers that it would be the height of impropriety for the

*Ibid.*

people to be cold in their reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their grievance is not against the Royal Family, but against the Indian authorities, their crochets, their caprices, their assertion of force against reason in dividing Bengal. 'Pray do not divide' was not a schoolboy's exhortation, but a nation's prayer. It has been rudely rejected, and the heartless resolution has called forth the tears and curses of the people.

BENGALEE  
9th Aug. 1905.

1028. A correspondent writing to the *Bengalee* states that the Chamber of Commerce is wrong in thinking that the

*Ibid.*

province can be partitioned by Resolution, and

points out that the scheme cannot be given effect to without the aid of legislation. In the first place, it will be necessary to vest the Lieutenant-Governor of the new province with the powers at present exercised by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal over the districts about to be separated, and this cannot be done without legislation. Similarly, the present Board of Revenue will have to be authorised to exercise the judicial powers now vested in the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, otherwise no appeal against the decision of the Revenue officers of the severed districts will lie to the new Board, and the danger of its decisions being set aside by the Civil Courts cannot be averted.

1029. The *Bengalee* repeats that the recent Town Hall meeting bears eloquent testimony to the deep feeling aroused by the partition of the province. The people

BENGALEE,  
9th Aug. 1905.

feel that a deadly blow has been aimed at their political status and national advancement and that any means should be utilised to avert this awful calamity. Having regard to the prevalent turmoil, sorrow, and unceasing agitation, one is prompted to ask whether the division of the Bengali-speaking race should have been effected even if the result was an appreciable increase in the efficiency of the administration. But good often results from evil, and it is not unlikely that this dire adversity may result in bringing about a regeneration of the Bengali race.

1030. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that it was resolved at the Town Hall meeting to encourage indigenous and boycott foreign manufactures. The question as to whether

*Ibid.*

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
9th Aug. 1905.

Indians could do without the latter at present is somewhat doubtful, owing to country-made goods not being available in abundance, but if this could be achieved through the medium of private enterprise—and there is no reason why it should not—it would bring the boycotting of foreign manufactures well within the range of possibility.

1031. The *Hindoo Patriot* hopes that in the interests of truth and equity the Calcutta Town Hall meeting will not be considered

*Ibid.*

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
April 29th, 1905.

by the authorities, especially by Lord Curzon, to be a purely artificial one, for even to the most careless observer the grief of the immense, representative gathering was very real. Government is a power to be influenced and not an enemy to be vilified, and the people amply realised the truth of this at the last meeting, but with what benefit to themselves time will disclose. If the prayer for the withdrawal of the scheme cannot be granted, the two remaining Bengali-speaking Divisions should also be transferred to the new province, as the splitting up of a hitherto united people into two opposing sections cannot but cause the greatest consternation.

1032. The *Bengalee* writes that the Lieutenant-Governor's Malda speech, in which he sought to justify the partition, is weak and utterly indefensible. Besides, does His Honour

*Ibid.*

BENGALEE,  
10th Aug. 1905.

seriously hope to allay the bitter feelings of the people by telling them that they will form new associations as strong and as happy as those that are being broken? If so, the depth of public feeling on this subject has been grievously under-rated. Enlightened Bengal has dubbed the partition scheme a political blunder, and nothing that the authorities can say will alter this verdict.

1033. The recent demonstration at the Calcutta Town Hall, writes the *Indian Mirror*, is without a parallel in the annals of Indian agitation and has rightly been

*Ibid.*

INDIAN MIRROR,  
10th Aug. 1905.

described as one of grim earnestness. Never were the people in such a fever of excitement, but great as the calamity is, it has had the effect of bringing classes and sections of the people into closer union. *Divide et impera* is the guiding principle of the present Government, hence Lord Curzon has schemed the division of one of the most enlightened Indian provinces, but, in doing so, His Excellency has harmed England as well as India, for the people have resolved to boycott foreign goods—a mode of retaliation that will touch the pockets of British manufacturers. Thus, the sooner Lord Curzon ceases to have any connection with the country the better for all parties.

1034. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* regards the contention that Bengal is too heavy a charge for one Lieutenant-Governor as

*Ibid.*

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
10th Aug. 1905.

idle and unsupportable, for how was the same province efficiently administered under far more trying and difficult circumstances by previous rulers, none of whom complained of its bulkiness? Moreover, if the present Lieutenant-Governor seriously thinks that Bengal is too large for him to administer, how does His Honour find the time to wander through the province distributing prizes to schoolboys, inspecting jails and dispensaries, and delivering himself of meaningless orations? Is not this in itself a refutation? But since the duties of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal are to be abridged so considerably, will not his pay be lessened to a corresponding extent? This should also be the case with His Excellency the Viceroy,

as the administration of the army, one of his most onerous duties, has practically been transferred to the Commander-in-Chief.

BENGALEE,  
11th Aug. 1905.

1035. Referring to the partition debate in Parliament, the *Bengalee* writes that the Secretary of State's speech was halting and deprecatory and conveyed the impression that he is

neither responsible for the partition scheme nor enamoured of it. The Secretary of State said that partition was the only 'feasible' remedy, as he believed Mr. Roberts's proposal for raising Bengal to a Governorship would not 'fulfil the object in view.' What is the object in view? If it is the division of the Bengali race, the Gubernatorial system would have been quite unavailing. Mr. Brodrick further told the House that Lord Curzon's Government had proceeded along the lines likely to evoke the least resistance. This is not true, and it is obviously unfair to shed this optimistic light on a measure that has convulsed the entire province and plunged its people into mourning.

BENGALEE,  
11th Aug. 1905.

1036. The *Bengalee's* Raipur correspondent writes that the people of the Central Provinces have lost much by the partition

*Ibid.*

Sambalpur and with it some big Feudatory States to the Bengal Administration. The truth seems to be that the Cuttack Uriyas have been compensated for the loss of Ganjam by the cession of Sambalpur to Orissa, and the poor law-abiding people of Sambalpur have consequently been unhesitatingly sacrificed. They will always rue the day of their severance from the Central Provinces, to which they were bound by long-standing social and political ties.

BENGALEE,  
6th Aug. 1905.

1037. The *Bengalee* writes that several Commissions have from time to

The Ministerial Salaries Com. time sat to consider the salaries and strength of ministerial officers, but without any satisfactory result, as will appear from the opinion recorded by

the Committee appointed in 1889 to the effect that the insufficiency of the ministerial establishment in Civil Courts is overwhelming. The ministerial staff is only able to cope with the work by the free employment of unpaid agency, by the diversion of copyists and process-serving peons from their legitimate duties, and by working out of office hours. This state of affairs, which has been very accurately depicted, has in no way improved and work is still carried on at a very high pressure owing to the additional work imposed by the High Court circulars, etc.

AMRTIA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
10th Aug. 1905.

1038. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that having passed the Official Secrets Act in the teeth of universal opposition, the

The Press Room in the Bengal Government of Lord Curzon have sought to soothe public opinion by the establishment of a Press

Room in every Presidency town. This institution, says the *Patrika*, is neither attractive nor useful, and recalls unpleasant memories of the old Press Room and the Tasmanian papers.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
10th Aug. 1905.

1039. The *Indian Mirror* writes that great damage and distress have been

Floods in the Uluberia sub- caused by certain areas of the Uluberia sub- division being under water, and it is time that some

steps were taken to relieve the sufferings of the people. Only last year they had to undergo the terrible consequences of the country being flooded, and it is nothing short of a calamity if they are to be afflicted annually in this way. Will not the Subdivisional Officer do something to help the people in their distress?

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
3rd Aug. 1905.

1040. The *Indian Mirror* writes that if the notorious partition scheme

The increasing unrest in India were the only measure undertaken by Lord and England's imperative duty. Curzon in disregard of popular feeling, it would be

put down to an error of judgment and public discontent would soon be allayed. But this, unfortunately is not the case, as Lord Curzon's entire administration has been rendered hateful to the people by a succession of repressive and retrograde measures. So unpopular a

Government is a menace to the Empire, and authorities at home would do well, in view of present Asiatic politics, to recall Lord Curzon without delay. Things have been drifting from bad to worse, and this is not the time for England to evince a mere academic interest in Indian affairs.

1041. The *Indian Mirror* writes that Mr. Brodrick has at last awakened to Lord Curzon's speech on Army reorganisation. a consciousness of the fact that there was nothing at which he might reasonably take offence. Why

then was the Secretary of State so eager to jump to conclusions? Indians are not enamoured of Lord Curzon in the least and rejoice at the prospect of bidding him good-bye very shortly, but nevertheless they are unanimous in thinking that there is nothing objectionable in his Council speech.

1042. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* notices that the projected visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales is causing no stir in England or in India. As far as the Indians are

concerned, this was to be expected, as the Bengalis, who invariably take the lead in public movements, have been plunged in deep sorrow owing to the partition of their province. As regards the question of cost, the journal supposes that the precedent case will be adhered to and India made to pay the piper. Will the Prince also receive presents and *nazars*? The *Patrika* thinks that the question of precedence is likely to be an intricate one and is distinctly of opinion that the Prince should take a second place to the Viceroy, as any other arrangement would lower the ruler of India in the eyes of his own subjects.

1043. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is glad to note that the Indian Stores Company, Limited, has been working so successfully

The working of the Indian Stores Company, Limited. as to replace Lancashire fine count production by 30 per cent, within the short space of two years.

The *Swadeshi* movement, which is gaining ground every day, is to a large extent responsible for this increase in home manufacture, and it is not idle to expect that the resolution boycotting foreign manufactures may be carried into effect in the near future if the advancement of indigenous manufactures is seriously attempted by the nation as a whole.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
4th Aug. 1905.

AMRITA BAZAR,  
PATRIKA,  
5th Aug. 1905.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
10th Aug. 1905.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.  
OF POLICE, L. P.  
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,  
The 12th August 1905.

F. C. DALY,  
Asst. to the Inspr.-Genl. of Police, L. P.

